

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-07 COME-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05

CCO-00 SCCT-01 AID-05 PC-01 NIC-01 IO-10 /099 W

----- 108289

R 260936Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 1992

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0371

E.O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS : PINS, BA

SUBJECT : BAHRAIN TEACHERS' STRIKE

REF : MANAMA 0357

1. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH AMIR MARCH 23 AND WITH OTHER MINISTERS WHILE SEEING AMIR OFF AT AIRPORT MARCH 26, I SEE NO EVIDENCE OF GOB ANXIETY ABOUT POLITICAL OR SECURITY SITUATIONS AS RESULT STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN SYMPATHY WITH TEACHERS' DISPUTE WITH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. GOB LEADERS GO TO SOME LENGTH TO DESCRIBE THIS AS THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION'S AFFAIR RATHER THAN THE GOVERNMENT'S AFFAIR.

2. SINCE REFTEL REPORT, THERE HAS BEEN A SHARP BUT BRIEF STUDENT/POLICE CLASH AT ONE OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS AFTERNOON MARCH 23 FOLLOWED BY A DAY OF APPARENTLY COMPLETE CALM DURING PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY MARCH 24. MARCH 25 A
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NUMBER OF SCHOOLS REMAINED CLOSED AND IN THE AFTERNOON

THERE WAS THE MOST SERIOUS CLASH TO DATE BETWEEN
STUDENTS AND POLICE DURING STUDENT
DEMONSTRATION IN MARKET AREA CAUSING PRECAUTIONARY
CLOSING OF MANY SHOPS. APPARENTLY THERE WERE NO INJURIES
BUT LOTS OF TEAR GAS WAS USED. MARCH 26-28 SCHOOLS WILL
BE CLOSED IN MOURNING DEATH OF KING FAISAL. POLICE CONTINUE
TO APPEAR TO HAVE SITUATION WELL IN HAND AND THERE IS AS YET
NO EVIDENCE THAT STUDENT UNREST IS SPREADING TO OTHER SECTORS
OF SOCIETY.
TWINAM

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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